

APPRECIATION TO HOWARD F. SHIPPS
from the DIVISION OF CHURCH HISTORY AND MISSIONS

John T. Seamands*

Dr. Shipps has often joked with me about his name and my name. I suppose it was inevitable that we should find ourselves in the same Division in the Seminary, for certainly “ships” and “seamen” go together!

But our relationship has been more than merely a connection of names; it has been a kinship of mind and heart. Serving in the same division of Church History and Missions has only served to emphasize and increase this feeling of kinship over the past twelve years.

I have always found Howard to be a real *gentleman* in his relationships—always courteous, patient, and understanding. Though he has his firm convictions, he is ever willing to listen to the other person’s viewpoint. The spirit of fairness has characterized each of our divisional meetings.

Howard is also a dedicated *Christian*. He has taken his call to teach very seriously and has sought to attain professional competence and effectiveness. More than just being interested in lectures, he has taken a real interest in the students as persons. This is proven by his conscientious involvement in the Field Education Program at the Seminary. Both through his personal life and through his professional life he has demonstrated the spirit of Christ and the fruits of the Holy Spirit.

In addition, Howard has always been a loyal Asburian, committed to the confession and objectives of the Seminary. He stood by the institution in difficult and crucial years, when the temptation might have

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been strong to withdraw to easier paths. We shall long remember his words of counsel and wisdom spoken at many faculty and committee meetings. One could readily understand that he always made the suggestion or decision which he felt would bring glory to his Lord and good to the Seminary.

It has been a blessing to know and work with Howard Shipps. May God bless him in continuing Christian ministries.